(a) the items which have been kept in reserved list for SSI sector;

(b) the items which have been removed from the reserved list;

(c) whether Government intend to remove some more commodities from the reserved list; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) 749 items are currently reserved for manufacture in the SSI sector.

(b) Since 1990-91 till date, 90 items (which include three sub-items) have been dereserved.

(c) and (d) The issue of reservation/de-reservation of items for exclusive manufacture in the SSI sector is examined on a continual basis by the Government and is based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee constituted under the Industries Development & Regulation Act, 1951. In addition, the Ministry of Small Scale Industries also consults stakeholders regarding various entries in the list.

Policy for promotion of SSIs

1782. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to formulate any policy for expansion and promotion of small scale industries in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details of the funds proposed to be sanctioned and likely to be released by Government to the various States during this Plan period; and

(c) the necessary steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Policy measures already exist for expansion and promotion of small scale industries. In addition, a Comprehensive Policy Package has been announced by Government on 30th August, 2000 to strengthen the small industries sector and enhance its competitiveness both domestically and globally. The package *inter-alia* includes easier access to credit, marketing support, availability of collateral free composite loan upto Rs. 25 lakhs, capital subsidy for technological upgradation and improved infrastructure.

(b) and (c) An outlay of Rs. 2584 crore has been fixed for various schemes and programmes for the SSI sector during the tenth Five Year Plan including release to State Governments. The various schemes and programmes are uniformly applicable and no specific State-wise allocation of funds is made. Funds are sanctioned and released as per extant guidelines.

Growth rate of SSIs

†1783. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the growth rate registered during first half of the current year in small scale industries;

(b) to what extent this growth rate has been more/less in comparison to last year;

(c) whether small scale sector has registered any decline during this period;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the number of items included in the small scale sector and how many more items are proposed to be included; and

(f) the efforts being made by Government to strengthen small scale sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) As there is a time lag of about six to nine months in availability of data, data on growth of Small Scale Industry (SSI) units are available upto first quarter 2002-03 *i.e.*, upto June 2002. The growth rate registered during first quarter of the current financial year in SSI sector has been estimated at 7.13%. This growth rate has been 1.18% more as compared to the same quarter of the previous year. There has not been any decline during this period.

(e) Perhaps the reference is to reserved items in the SSI Sector. Out of over 7500 items produced by the SSI Units, as on 1.6.2002, 749 items were reserved exclusively for the manufacture in the SSI Sector. The issue of reservation/de-reservation of items is examined on a continual basis by the Government and is based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee constituted under the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.